

ABSTRACT

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5 In accordance with the present invention, novel
IL-16 antagonists, preferably peptides derived from CD4,
have been isolated and synthesized. These peptides
possess IL-16 antagonistic properties including the
ability to selectively bind to IL-16 and inhibit IL-16-
mediated biological activity. The peptides comprise
specific portions of the native human CD4 receptor and
10 variations thereof and therefore are non-immunogenic when
administered to humans. The present invention also
provides compositions containing at least one IL-16
antagonist peptide which can inhibit, suppress or cause
the cessation of at least one IL-16-mediated biological
15 activity in mammals, including humans.

The present invention provides a method and
composition for treating inflammation associated with
disease states such as asthma, rheumatoid arthritis,
inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and systemic lupus (SLE)
20 in mammals such as, for example, humans.

105180-4255250